an increase of 6.2 percent during January-June, 1991 which has increased to 8.5 percent during July-November, 1991.

(b) The decline in the overall rate of growth during this year was due to several factors. In some sectors, this was due to a shortage of raw materials, particularly imported raw materials, because of foreign exchange constraints. In some other sectors, the fall in growth rates may be attributed to the plateauing of demand after extremely high growth rates in previous years. The imposition fo some specific import restrictions due to balance of payments considerations contributed to a slow down in the growth in some sectors. Some other sectors were affected by infrastructural constraints such as power and coal shortages in some areas and industrial relations problems in some sectors.

(c) Measures taken in the new Industrial and Trade Policy are aimed at boosting industrial growth. The changes in the fiscal and other related aspects of industrial activity are a continuous process and measures in this direction are taken from time to time depending upon the needs and circumstances.

Import of raw materials by NSIC

3208. SHRIMATI MANORAMA PANDEY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether National Small Industries Corporation are importing various raw-materials for tiny and small sector under its IRMAC scheme; if so, what are the details thereof;

(b) what are the details of imported and indigenous raw materials assistance scheme being offered by NSIC to existing and proposed units, facilities offered including L/C earnest money for import etc.;

(c) whether NSIC are importing raw materials under OGL, if so, what are the details thereof;

(d) whether NSIC are making serious efforts to procure wanting scale raw-materials from Government Enterprises for proposed SSI units after new industrial policy for small sector announced, if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) whether few raw materials have been canalised through NSIC for small sector; if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) Yes, Sir. According to NSIC, it has imported Precision Instruments against licence under IRMAC Scheme.

(b) The Corporation provides both imported and indigenous raw materials to the SSI under its Raw-Material Assistance Scheme against their specific requirements. The units availing assistance are required to deposit between 20 to 30% as margin money and interest on blocked up capital as per the prevalent Bank rates is charged. The Corporation's Service Charges range between 1 to 3% depending upon the quantum of assistance provided.

(c) Yes, Sir. The main items of Import under OGL by the Corporation are Electronic Components, PVC/Oleopine Resin, Acrylic Scrap, CRGO Sheets, Pig Iron etc. as per requirements of the units.

(d) Yes, Sir. The Corporation is negotiating with IPCL, Baroda, Hindustan Zinc Ltd., Udaipur to procure Polymars and Zinc Ltd.,

(e) No, Sir.

Locational policy for industries

3209. SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to scrap locational policy to set up industries in the country; and

(b) whether Government propose to allow entrepreneurs to choose the location of their own choice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P. J. KURIEN): (a) and (b) There